

NOTES ON EDUCATION

Reports recommending that instruction in the metric system be given in the public schools have been presented to the Boston School Board and laid upon the table.

Nearly two weeks have been added to the Harvard school year, and the people are indignant. The addition makes the school year nearly 42 weeks long—an unheard-of thing in New-England.

A petition signed by a large number of cultivated persons has been presented to the Mayor of Cambridge, asking for the admission of women to a share in the management of the public schools of that city. They ask to be put upon the School Board.

In the San Francisco cosmopolitan schools pupils are permitted to study French or German only after written application has been made by their parent or guardian, such written application to contain a promise from said guardian or parent that the study of the language chosen will not be discontinued before the end of the school year. One hour each day is given to the study of German or French in all classes where one of those languages is taught.

H. Cabot Lodge, Ph. D., has been appointed by the Harvard Overseers instructor in History for the ensuing year; Ephraim Emerton, Ph. D., instructor in History and German for the ensuing year; Thomas Sergeant Perry, Instructor in English for the ensuing year; Walter Faxon and Edward Laurens Mark, Instructors in Zoology for the ensuing year; Frank Whithorpe Draper, M. D., and Charles Follett Folsom, M. D., lecturers on Hygiene for the year 1877-'78; Benjamin Marston Watson, A. B., 1870, Instructor in Horticulture for the ensuing academic year; Louis D. Brandt as proctor.

The trustees of the Lowell Institute have made arrangements with the Institute of Technology for a free course of instruction in "Practical Design for Manufactures," open to pupils of both sexes. This class will be in charge of a skillful designer and the instruction will be practical. Designing is to be studied as an art which can be applied to decoration or for patterns for fabrics. Already the designs for patterns made by students of the Institute have been sent to the factories and made use of for various purposes. The class is under the personal instruction of Mr. Charles Kastner, who was designer at the Pacific Mills for 14 years, and who received his instruction from the best instructors in the art in France. During the next year the managers of the Institute will have their loans of all kinds running. Among them will be a pattern room. The instruction in this department will accordingly be so extended as to make the designer familiar with the weaving of the fabric according to the pattern, including, of course, the intricate and elaborate details of putting the patterns in the form for weaving, which to the uninitiated observer looks like a tangled wilderness of twine. It is proposed to unite with the study of chemistry for practical purposes the art of making colors. The instruction will be given by a teacher thoroughly competent and having experience in this important art. The introduction of this useful department will complete the instruction in designing by affording the facilities for making the fabric patterns of the designers in the colors which they desire.

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